



United States Department of the Interior

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Office of the District Mining Supervisor
Conservation Division
2040 Administration Building
1745 West 1700 South
Salt Lake City, Utah 84104-3885

December 24, 1981

Mr. James Smith
Utah State Division
Oil, Gas, & Mining
4241 State Office Building
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114

Dear Mr. Smith:

Enclosed is a draft copy of our Environmental Analysis for American Gilsonite Company's Little Bonanza (B-44 through B-56) mine plan proposal on Federal gilsonite lease U-0126940. The appendices are also included. You already have the mine plan and maps. Additional information provided by you will be made a part of the analysis when we receive it.

We received a copy of your letter to American Gilsonite Company enumerating items of clarification and requests for additional input to the plan. Please supply us with a copy of the response that American Gilsonite makes to your request.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Allen Vance or me.

Sincerely yours,

Jackson W. Moffitt
Jackson W. Moffitt
District Mining Supervisor

Enclosures

RECEIVED
DEC 29 1981

DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS & MINING

To Gil
File
U-0126940

Act/047/010

JIM

DEC 25 1981

United States Department of the Interior
Geological Survey
Office of the District Mining Supervisor
Conservation Division
2040 Administration Building
1745 West 1700 South
Salt Lake City, Utah 84104

OPERATOR American Gilsonite Company

PROJECT OR WELL NAME AND NO. Bonanza 44 through 56 mines

LOCATION N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$, sec. 17 TOWNSHIP 9 S., RANGE 24 E., SLM
3 miles northwest of Bonanza, Utah TOWNSHIP _____ RANGE _____

COUNTY Utah STATE Utah

LEASE NO. U-0126940

JOINT FIELD INSPECTION DATE November 3, 1981*

PREPARED BY Allen L. Vance, Mining Engineer, USGS-CD

FIELD INSPECTION PARTICIPANTS, TITLES, AND ORGANIZATIONS:

Allen L. Vance, Mining Engineer, USGS, Mining, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Brad Palmer, District Geologist, BLM, Vernal, Utah.

Richard E. Carlbert, Mining Engineer, American Gilsonite Company.

RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTS

NEPA Categorical Exclusion Review for drilling program on subject lease approved
November 21, 1980, and an addendum approved January 23, 1981. Environmental
Analysis for Little Emma vein mine plan on Federal gilsonite lease U-0126938
approved March 31, 1978.

* An onsite inspection was conducted on September 27, 1979, at which time a survey of the lease boundaries was requested. The current mine plan resulted from that survey

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	Page
1. Description of the Proposed Action.	1
2. Environmental Consideration of the Proposed Action	9
3. Alternatives to the Proposed Action	21
4. Unavoidable Adverse Environmental Effects of the Proposed Action.	22
5. Controversial Issues and Conservation Division Responses.	22
6. Finding of No Significant Impact.	23
7. Determination	24
8. References, Bibliography.	25
9. Appendices.	26

INTRODUCTION

The two main purposes of this environmental analysis is to describe the proposed action American Gilsonite Company has for Federal gilsonite lease U-0126940; and to consider what effects this action will have on the existing environment. Other purposes are to consider alternatives and to determine the adverse environmental effects on the proposed action. In conclusion, a determination will be made of the affects on the quality of the human environment as required by NEPA.